

More pointedly, security experts, such as Edward Luttwak from the Center for Strategic and International Studies, have come forward questioning the effectiveness of whole body scanners since they can be defeated by hiding explosives in body cavities. The General Accounting Office, an investigative arm of Congress, has stated that it is unclear whether scanners would have spotted the kind of explosives carried by the "Christmas Day" bomber.

About one-half of these body scanning machines use low dose x-rays to scan passengers. Last May, a group of esteemed scientists from the University of California, San Francisco wrote to John Holdren, President Obama's science adviser, voicing their concerns about the rapid roll out of scanners without a rigorous safety review by an impartial panel of experts. The scientists caution that the TSA has miscalculated the radiation dose to the skin from scanners and that there is "good reason to believe that these scanners will increase the risk of cancer to children and other vulnerable populations." (<http://n.pr/bKGCKX>).

David Brenner, director of Columbia University's Center for Radiological Research, has also voiced caution about x-raying millions of air travelers. He was a member of the government committee that set the safety guidelines for the x-ray scanners, and he now says he would not have signed onto the report had he known that TSA wanted to scan almost every air traveler. (<http://www.columbia.edu/~djb3/>)

Passenger complaints to TSA and newspaper accounts of passenger experiences with scanners contradict TSA assurances that checkpoint signs provide adequate notice to travelers about the scanning procedure and the pat down option. Travelers, who reported that they were not fully aware what the scanning procedure involved, said they were not made aware of alternative search options. (<http://nyti.ms/9hGtUO>)

Many travelers complained about their privacy, and their families' privacy, being invaded. Some were concerned about the radiation risk, particularly to pregnant women and children. Some travelers felt bullied by rude TSA screeners. The Wall Street Journal reported that one woman who refused to go through the body scanner was called "unpatriotic" by the TSA screener.

Expensive state-of-the-art security technology that poses potentially serious health risks to vulnerable passengers, invades privacy, and provides questionable security is neither smart nor safe. For the White House it is a political embarrassment waiting to happen.

President Obama should suspend the body scanning program and appoint an independent panel of experts to review the issues of privacy, health and effectiveness. After such a review, should the DHS and TSA still want to deploy body scanners at airports, they should initiate a public rulemaking, which they have refused thus far, so that the public can have their say in the matter.

If you experience any push-back from TSA screeners when you assert your right to refuse to go through a whole body scanner and request a pat down security search instead, please write to info@csrl.org.

Ralph Nader is a consumer advocate, lawyer, and author. His most recent book—and first novel—is, *Only The Super Wealthy Can Save Us*. His most recent work of non-fiction is *The Seventeen Traditions*.

RETIREMENT OF FRANK WILLIAMS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BUILDING INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA'S BALDY VIEW CHAPTER

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Frank Williams from the Building Industry Association's Baldy View Chapter.

Frank dedicated his career at the BIA to helping families achieve the American Dream of home ownership. He led the Baldy View Chapter with distinction, promoting quality communities, facilitating business opportunities for the Association's members, and always working to increase the public's awareness about the importance of home ownership.

Frank was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Building Industry Association Southern California, Inc. Baldy View Chapter in April of 1992. Working from the Association's Rancho Cucamonga offices, he planned, directed, budgeted and coordinated all programs and administrative activities of the Baldy View Region, which includes all of San Bernardino County and all areas east of the 605 in Los Angeles County.

Under Frank's leadership, the Baldy View BIA has become a true partner with Congress to help cultivate an environment where more Americans can turn the dream of home ownership into reality. I commend Frank for working with Congress to create the conditions necessary to make home ownership available to more families.

Frank Williams is the recipient of the 1998 Fair Housing Award from the Fair Housing Council of San Bernardino County. He was named the National Association of Home Builders "Gary Komarow Memorial Executive Officer of the Year" in 1999.

While the BIA is losing an exceptional leader, I know our community and our Nation will continue to benefit from Frank's enthusiasm and vision for the cause of housing. Frank has been a tireless community leader and advocate for affordable housing, and he has been instrumental in helping to promote home ownership on the national level. With Frank's dedication, we have been able to raise national awareness about the housing needs of Californians. I am confident his work will continue into the future.

Frank is the Founder, Chairman of the Board and President of Housing Action Resource Trust (HART), a non-profit affordable housing provider that has assisted 50,000 families to buy homes. He also serves as a Commissioner to the San Bernardino County Housing Authority and is a fully-accredited Commissioner on the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officers. In addition, he was recently appointed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to a Joint Land Use Task Force within the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

There are many grateful people who have benefited from Frank's mentorship and vision over the years. On Wednesday, July 7, Frank's colleagues, friends and family are gathering to thank him for his leadership and dedication to the cause of home ownership.

Frank Williams has been a champion for increasing home ownership and promoting community development. I am very proud to congratulate him on his retirement and I commend him for his dedication to furthering housing opportunities for Californians and all Americans.

HONORING THE 2010 NATIONAL JUNIOR DISABILITY CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the participants and sponsors of the National Junior Disability Championships. This annual competition, founded by Wheelchair Sports USA, has helped teach the value of sports to young athletes since 1984. It began as a small competition for wheelchair athletes ages 7 to 21. Since that time, it has continued to grow both in nature and number. The competition expanded in scope to include athletes with many different types of disabilities, not just those in wheelchairs. Athletes with spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, blindness, and many other disabilities now participate in the competition. Reflecting this expansion in mission, the sponsoring organization changed its name to Wheelchair & Ambulatory Sports USA. The diversity of sports offered also increased. Although only three sports were initially offered, athletes now participate in seven areas of competition. Over 300 athletes from around the country participate each year.

For some of these young athletes, the National Junior Disability Championships competition provides a pathway to qualify for the U.S. Paralympics team. More importantly, however, it provides these young people the opportunity to develop the values of teamwork, sportsmanship, hard work, and perseverance offered by sports. Participants also benefit in other ways. For example, research shows the importance of physical activity in both the physical and mental development of children. This event removes the barriers that so often prevent these young people with disabilities from participating in sports, allowing them to reap the benefits of athletic competition.

In closing, I would also like to congratulate the athletes participating in the National Junior Disability Championships. It takes great perseverance, commitment, and strength of spirit to participate in this type of competition. I wish you the best of luck as you prepare for your respective athletic events.

IN TRIBUTE TO BOBBY POPE

HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Bobby Pope, of Macon, Georgia, who is retiring after a long and illustrious tenure as Athletic Director of Mercer University. I rise to thank Bobby for his extraordinary commitment to Mercer Athletics,

his promotion of academic and athletic excellence within the Atlantic Sun Conference, and his overall contributions to the local community.

Madam Speaker, for over 20 years Bobby Pope, Dean of the Atlantic Sun Conference, has served as the Athletic Director for Mercer University. During his tenure, Mercer athletics have thrived, and its student-athletes have achieved impressive success both on and off the field. The program now includes 14 NCAA Division I teams plus the addition of the first-ever fulltime coaches for men's and women's golf, tennis, and cross country. Largely thanks to Bobby, Mercer University will field Georgia's first NCAA Division I men's and women's lacrosse teams in the upcoming year. Bobby Pope's commitment to building and strengthening Mercer athletics can further be seen in the recent renovations of existing fields and the construction of a state-of-the-art facility for student-athletes and coaches.

With Bobby Pope at the helm, Mercer University has twice won the Atlantic Sun Conference's All-Academic Trophy. Since its inception in 2007, the Atlantic Sun Conference post-graduate scholarship recognizing excellence and integrity has been awarded to a Mercer student-athlete. During Bobby's tenure, the cumulative grade point average for Mercer Bear student-athletes never fell below 3.0—a testament to his commitment to academic excellence.

Madam Speaker, Bobby Pope's passion and commitment to athletics and promoting sportsmanship extend beyond Mercer University. He has been very active in the Atlantic Sun Conference—twice serving as Conference President, as well as serving as a member on numerous Conference committees. Bobby has also made innumerable contributions to the local community as treasurer of the Macon Touchdown Club and through his service on the Mayor's Recreation Master Plan Committee, as well as the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority. Indeed, he was recognized for his lifelong contributions to Middle Georgia Athletics when he was inducted into the Macon Sports Hall of Fame on April 28, 2006. Also, for over 35 years, his broadcast of local sports news on the "Saturday Scoreboard" gave us the good, the bad, and the ugly about our Georgia Bulldogs, Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, and other middle Georgia sports teams.

Also, for over 35 years, his broadcast of local sports news on the Saturday Scoreboard gave us the good, the bad, and the ugly about our Georgia Bulldogs, Georgia Tech Yellow Jackets, and other Middle Georgia sports teams.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to include this brief acknowledgement of the accomplishments of Bobby Pope as Athletic Director of Mercer University. As he assumes his new role as the Executive Director for the Mercer Athletic Foundation, Bobby will undoubtedly continue to contribute to the success and accomplishments of Mercer Athletics. Few leave such enduringly positive legacies.

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 284, introduced by Representative SESSIONS, which recognizes the hard work and importance of special education teachers.

In 1972, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that people with special needs or disabilities had the same right to the quality education in public schools as their nondisabled peers. This monumental case changed the way we view children with special needs as well as the increased need for teachers who are certified for educating children with special needs. Actually, today, about 10 percent of all school-aged children receive special education services. This number shows the necessity and importance of special education teachers nationwide.

It takes an exceptional person to educate children with disabilities. Special education teachers have to adapt to a wide variety of needs ranging from children who have autism, hearing and seeing impairments, and even orthopedic impairments. Special education teachers have to come up with individual-specific plans for each child enrolled in their class, tailored to help children reach their full learning potential. Special education teachers must possess unique characteristics including extreme patience, organization capabilities, and the ability to understand each individual's needs. What makes these unique characteristics and hard work of these educators especially significant is the fact that they help improve the lives of the neediest amongst us, the special education students. Therefore, it is evident that these special education teachers' hard work and dedication is truly deserving of the appreciation that Congress offers within H. Con. Res. 284.

DeKalb County School System located in the Fourth District of Georgia has a history of focused care and concern for students with special needs. In fact, DeKalb County School System has an internationally recognized Exceptional Education and Support Services Division that provides a support system for the students with special needs as well as for their parents. I am proud of programs within my district, such as this support division, that help special education teachers by giving them the option to offer this support system to their students. I want to personally thank the special education teachers in my district and across the United States.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CYBER DEFENSE COMPETITION

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1244,

"Recognizing the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition for its now five-year effort to promote cyber security curriculum in institutions of higher learning," as introduced by my fellow member of the Texas delegation, Rep. CIRO RODRIGUEZ.

Our nation's critical infrastructure is composed of public and private institutions in the sectors of agriculture, food, water, public health, emergency services, government, defense industrial base, information and telecommunications, energy, transportation, banking and finance, chemicals and hazardous materials, and postal and shipping. Cyberspace is their nervous system—the control system of our country. Cyberspace is composed of hundreds of thousands of interconnected computers, servers, routers, switches, and fiber optic cables that allow our critical infrastructures to work. Thus, the healthy, secure, and efficient functioning of cyberspace is essential to both our economy and our national security.

One of the most significant security challenges that our Federal government faces today is ensuring that we have an abundance of adequately trained individuals defending our information infrastructure. In the past, I have been proud to sponsor bills that would increase funding for cybersecurity education programs, to ensure that we have a properly trained workforce to protect this vital infrastructure. The National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) is an important piece of the cybersecurity education puzzle.

Since 2005, the National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition has given students in the field of cybersecurity the opportunity to showcase their abilities. Rather than having students design an "ideal" network, the CCDC requires participants to assume the administrative and protective duties for an existing "commercial" network. This allows participants to show their skill at "real world" situations, as very few cybersecurity workers will have the luxury of building a perfect system from the ground up. While we obviously want to build the most secure networks possible, our experts must be able to work with the infrastructure that exists, finding and eliminating weaknesses that may already exist, and making imperfect systems secure.

Over the last few years, the contest has grown to include regional competitions in Texas, Maine, Washington, California, and Minnesota, among other locations. This year, there were more than eighty schools that participated, from all parts of the country. The students participating in this contest have not only demonstrated their knowledge and understanding of this important function, but they have also had the opportunity to hone their skills by dealing with actual, real time issues. The National Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition plays an important role in the development of our next generation of cybersecurity professionals, and I am proud to join Mr. RODRIGUEZ in recognizing it.